

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 095689

NODIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 7280 SENT ACTION SECSTATE 27 APR 77

QUOTE S E C R E T BONN 07280

NODIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/CE

DEPARTMENT PASS USMISSION USBERLIN AND AMEMBASSY BERLIN

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GW, UR, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: SOVIET DEMARCHE ON ALLIED PATROLS

REFS: (A) STATE 94461; (B) STATE 94184

(C) BONN 7126; (D) BONN 7091; (E) STATE 86351

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1. BONN GROUP MET APRIL 27 TO DISCUSS DRAFT REPLY TO
SOVIET NOTE TRANSMITTED IN REFTEL D. FRENCH (DE
BOISSIEU) AND US REP STATED THAT THEY HAD APPROVAL
OF TEXT, AS AMENDED BY FRENCH PROPOSED CHANGES (REFTEL
C). UK REP (EYERS) HAD NOT SUBMITTED PROPOSED FRENCH
CHANGES SINCE HE WAS AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING
DRAFT SUBMITTED REFTEL D AND THEY WERE RECEIVED ONLY

A FEW MINUTES BEFORE THE MEETING.

2. GOVERNMENT APPROVALS HAVE NOW BEEN RECEIVED BY FRENCH, UK AND US REPS FOR PARAGRAPHS A, B, C .AND D OF REFTEL D. IN VIEW OF UK, FRENCH AND FRG OPPOSITION (CONFIRMED BY CAPITALS) TO THE SENTENCES BRACKETED IN PARA B, US REP STATED THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD NOT INSIST ON INCLUSION OF TWO SENTENCES BUT WOULD RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE POINT ORALLY WHEN DELIVERING OUR RESPONSE.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PARAGRAPH E, LONDON FELT THAT THE NEW LANGUAGE WAS CONSIDERABLY WEAKER THAN THAT ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE BONN GROUP AND EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR A CLEARER STATEMENT THAT ANY UNILATERAL QUESTIONING OF QUADRIpartite RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD UNDERMINE THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT. DE BOISSIEU AGREED AND SAID THAT THE FRENCH WOULD MAKE THE POINT ORALLY THAT THEY ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND QUADRIpartite DECLARATION AND THAT ANY CARRYING OUT OF THE SOVIET IMPLIED THREATS TO STOP THE PATROLS WOULD AFFECT FRENCH RELATIONS WITH THE USSR AND THE GDR. AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, EYERS SAID THAT HE WAS AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT THE PRESENT WORDING BUT WOULD RECOMMEND AN ORAL STATEMENT ALONG THE LINES SUGGESTED BY DE BOISSIEU.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH E,
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EYERS HAD FIRM INSTRUCTIONS TO RESOLVE THE AMBIGUITY IN THE PHRASE "WHICH CONSTITUTE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF DETENTE." HE SAID THAT LONDON BELIEVED THE WORD "WHICH" COULD BE READ AS REFERRING EITHER TO "THE UNDERTAKINGS" OR "THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND THE QUADRIpartite DECLARATION." FOR LONDON, IT IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND QUADRIpartite DECLARATION ARE WHAT IS REFERRED TO AS CONSTITUTING FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF DETENTE. CONSEQUENTLY, IT WAS AGREED TO END THE EXISTING FIRST SENTENCE AFTER "QUADRIpartite DECLARATION" AND INSERT A NEW SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS: "THIS AGREEMENT AND DECLARATION CONSTITUTE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF DETENTE."

5. LONDON ALSO EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE REFERENCE TO "OUTSIDE PARTIES" IN PARA 6 IS INAPPROPRIATE SINCE WHAT IS AT ISSUE IS ACTION BY THE USSR, NOT THE GDR. HE NOTED THAT THE USSR HAD RESERVED THE RIGHT TO TAKE

NECESSARY MEASURES AND ALSO THAT THE GDR HAD NOT YET ENTERED INTO THIS EXCHANGE. WE NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD USED THIS PHRASE IN PARA 2(B) (REFTEL OF ITS ORIGINAL DRAFT (REFTEL E) AND SAID THAT WE THOUGHT THE IMPLICIT REFERENCE TO THE GDR WAS APPROPRIATE. THE FRENCH AND GERMANS WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT EITHER VERSION. IN VIEW OF WHAT APPEAR TO BE LONDON'S STRONG VIEWS, IN THE INTEREST OF AGREEMENT, WE AGREED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE PHRASE IN PARA 6 "AND THAT OUTSIDE PARTIES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH THESE IMPORTANT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES" BE DELETED. HOWEVER, WE NOTED THAT EVEN IF THE DEPARTMENT AGREED TO THIS RECOMMENDATION IT MIGHT WISH TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE THE POINT ORALLY. OTHER BONN GROUP REPS AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

6. IF THE FOREGOING IS ACCEPTABLE IN ALL CAPITALS,
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WE NOW HAVE AN AGREED REPLY TO THE SOVIET DEMARCHE. EYERS SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE FOREGOING CHANGES, INCLUDING THOSE PROPOSED YESTERDAY BY THE FRENCH, WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO LONDON. FRG REP (HENZE) AND DE BOISSIEU BOTH BELIEVE THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE PROPOSED DRAFT. ALL BONN GROUP MEMBERS HOPE TO HAVE FINAL APPROVAL BY TOMORROW.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: URGENT APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO PARAGRAPHS 5 AND 6.
STOESSEL

UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

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